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OLC 75-2657

20 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Rick Gilmore re Briefing of
Senator Dick Clark

1. On 17 October 1975, I met with Rick Gilmore in his office to deliver materials on Soviet grain production at the request of [REDACTED] and to discuss with him the briefing for Gilmore and Senator Dick Clark on the Soviet Union in preparation for their proposed trip. Gilmore was friendly but it is obvious that he still does not understand CIA's role. During the meeting he constantly asked for information on various matters handled by different departments and agencies of the U. S. Government. I explained to him again that the Agency does not normally have any information on the U. S. Government end of contract negotiations, policy decisions, etc. and that for this information he would have to turn to the State Department, USDA or other entities which handled those matters. I told him the only thing we would have on grain deals, etc., would be information gleaned from our [REDACTED]

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2. As to the Research Aid on Soviet Grain 1960 - 1973, Gilmore stated that, while useful and interesting, it was not responsive to the request from Senator Church. He said he worded the Senator Church letter as he was told to do in a previous briefing given him by OCI and OER and what he was looking for were memos prepared by CIA as backgrounders for top level policymakers. Basically, what he is looking for is information on short and long range information on Soviet grain production; an assessment for the Soviet crop year 1975/1976; assessment of future grain production in terms of new acreage devoted to grain; possible increase in planting and its effect on Soviet planning based on an increased demand for feed operations, etc. I told him it was my understanding that the document I delivered was pursuant to his request but that I would discuss his response with the appropriate analysts. It is suggested that we now go to the fallback position mentioned in [REDACTED] October 9, 1975 memo to the DDI, that is,

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the preparation of a blind memo on grain estimates which Gilmore can come out and read. I have discussed this matter with [REDACTED] and am forwarding a copy of this memo to him.

3. Re the briefing for Senator Clark: Gilmore and a member of the personal staff of Senator Clark, Andy Lowei, will also be present. Lowei is Senator Clark's personal representative on the Foreign Relations Committee staff. Senator Clark proposes to leave for Moscow on November 23 and return by way of Portugal. The briefing has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 14 or Monday, November 17. Gilmore stated that Senator Clark would like to be briefed to the extent possible on the following:

- a. any information we have concerning the long term grain purchasing agreement, its background and current negotiations;
- b. to what use the Soviet Union will put U. S. grain purchases;
- c. how the importation of U. S. grain fits into Soviet domestic planning and planning for Soviet grain supplies to COMECON and other countries such as India;
- d. relationships, if any, between Soviet grain imports from the U. S. and Soviet grain export plans, in other words, how does CIA see Soviet domestic grain requirements vis-a-vis any grain export plans they may have, both short and long range, to COMECON nations and other important nations;
- e. what changes can we expect in the future based on current and future Soviet grain production;
- f. what are Soviet domestic grain priorities and what is the allocation of grain in those priorities; in other words, what is grain used for first, second, third (food?, livestock feed?, milling?) and what percentage of Soviet grain supplies is allocated to each;
- g. where do Soviet grain exports fit into their priorities and what weight is given to those priorities vis-a-vis exports to other countries;

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- h. what changes in priorities can be expected as the Soviets turn more and more to the importation to U. S. grain;
 - i. what influence would various possible U. S. actions have on those priorities;
 - j. what is the connection, if any, between Soviet grain imports and oil exports and how has the matter been handled by the Soviets;
 - k. how do the Soviets view the signing of a grain contract with the U. S. compared with the reserve proposal of London or elsewhere;
 - l. what are the chances of the Soviets entering into agreements with other nations for grain in line with the world food policy; and
 - m. Soviet grain storage: capacity, as well as stocks on hand and reserves.
4. He also would like to get any information we could supply on the items listed below. I told him that we would not have much information on these matters but I would check to see. They are:
- a. what is involved, procedurally, in contracting for U. S. grain;
 - b. who should the suppliers be;
 - c. why are contracts with grain suppliers made abroad and not within the U. S.;
 - d. will grain supply contracts under the agreement be made abroad or in the U. S.;
 - e. what discussion on price, if any, is made in the agreement;
 - f. has any thought been given to which grain supply companies should get what percent of the contract;

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- g. is there any limitation on Soviet participation in the U. S. future's market;
- h. can the Soviets purchase in the future's market before the agreement is in effect and without their identity being made known to USDA; and
- i. what are the details on transportation and the terms thereof; and will they be U. S. carriers, foreign carriers, or mixed.

5. At the briefing, either Gilmore or Clark intend to raise questions re the recent newspaper articles by Dan Morgan and particularly why USDA was surprised that CIA gathers intelligence on the world grain market.

6. According to Gilmore, Senator Clark taught Soviet studies at the University of Iowa and should be fairly knowledgeable in general terms of the Soviet Union. Gilmore would also like to have a list of key individuals we feel Senator Clark and company should talk to on Soviet grain, both as to political--economic and commercial aspects.

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[REDACTED]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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